92-05448/

TECHNICAL NOTE No. 260

ISSN 0820-807

FOREST INSECTS AND DISEASES IN ROOSEVELT CAMPOBELLO INTERNATIONAL PARK IN 1991

The following observations were made by Forest Insect and Disease Survey (FIDS) personnel of Forest Canada - Maritimes Region on some of the insects and diseases found during two visits to Roosevelt Campobello International Park in 1991.

SPRUCE BUDMOTH feeds on developing buds of white spruce under the bud caps, which it secures to the growing shoot with silk. It is a serious problem in white spruce plantations throughout the Maritimes. Light damage was found at many locations in the Park, with most damage occurring at the Visitors' Centre area.

GYPSY MOTH has become a problem in the Maritimes in the past 10 years. Since its reappearance in the Maritimes in 1981, it has become an established pest in south-western New Brunswick and western Nova Scotia. The female moth is unable to fly, making the spread of this pest largely dependent on the transport of eggs, or other life stages, by humans, especially on camping equipment and vehicles. For this reason, tourist areas like Roosevelt Park, with their large influx of vehicles, are potential entry points for the gypsy moth. Pheromone trapping has been conducted in the Maritimes since 1969 to monitor gypsy moth populations. Two traps placed and monitored by Park staff caught 68 adult male gypsy moths this year, but no other life stages were found. Visitors are requested to report any suspected gypsy moth to Park personnel. The juvenile stage is a large hairy caterpillar with five pairs of blue and six pairs of red spots on its back.

BALSAM TWIG APHID is a tiny insect which, when present in high numbers, produced

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white "wool" and large amounts of honey dew, causing the current shoots of balsam fir to have a twisted, whitish, sticky appearance. Damage was common at low levels on young balsam fir throughout the Park with most damage occurring at Fox Farm picnic site.

BALSAM WOOLLY ADELGID attacks balsam fir trees in two ways: on the stem, as evidenced by tiny patches of white wool; or on twigs, where high numbers feed at the base of new shoots causing them to swell, and resulting in a gouty appearance. Repeated severe twig attacks cause large balsam fir trees to have flat umbrella-like crowns. Attack is often chronic, resulting in unhealthy looking trees and eventually leading to death. Both stem and twig attack were present throughout the Park, with the most severely attacked and worst looking trees observed at Fox Farm and along Liberty Point Trail.

LEAF SCORCH is a drought-induced condition, which caused blackened, twisted leaves on hardwoods. Damage was fairly common throughout the Park on alders and mountain ash. It was most common and most severe on speckled alder at Ragged Point.

WOOLLY ALDER APHID feeds on two hosts: the leaves of silver maple in early summer, and on twigs and branches of speckled alder in late summer. It produces a white woolly sticky substance that is quite striking on alder. It was quite common on alder from Fox Farm to Cranberry Point.

BALSAM GALL MIDGE is a small insect that creates galls on needles of balsam fir and feeds from inside them. This causes the needles to dry out and fall off prematurely. Damage was found at low levels throughout the Park, wherever young balsam fir occurred.

HEMLOCK LOOPER is a voracious, messy feeder mainly of balsam fir. It feeds on needles of all age classes, chewing but not consuming all of the needles. High populations can kill trees in 1 year. Populations and damage continued to increase in both Maine and New Brunswick in 1991. Surveys in the Park by Forestry Canada and the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy indicated hemlock looper is present throughout the Park, but that it has only caused light defoliation. Predictions based on egg surveys indicate that only light defoliation is expected to occur in the Park in 1992.

OTHER PESTS of interest observed by FIDS staff were **RED FLAGGING** of balsam fir, scattered red branches in crowns of balsam fir, which have been girdled by **WHITE SPOTTED SAWYER BEETLES**. These were common throughout the Park, with an average of 3-6 flags seen on many trees. **FALL WEBWORM**, an insect that builds webs around the branches of a variety of broad leaved trees in late summer, was fairly common throughout the Park. **ALDER FLEA BEETLE**, is a small black larva that skeletonizes the leaves of alder from mid-June to late August, creating a scorched appearance. Light attack occurred on alder at Upper Duck Pond and at numerous other areas in the Park where alder was present.

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April 1992